

VOICE OF THE VINEYARD

"Go out and preach the work. The first obligation laid upon this Church, even before it was organized, was the obligation to go out and teach the gospel. That obligation has never been lifted. It has been with us ever since." (President Gordon B. Hinckley)



With the high standards of excellence we have set for ourselves for the months of February and March, I thought that it would be appropriate to remind ourselves of what it means to truly meet those standards. At the very heart of our lives in the Church, and as members of a mission and really, members of our own families, is our ability to make and keep commitments and promises. The commitments and promises we make to ourselves and to others, and our integrity to those commitments is the essence and clearest manifestation of our character. It is also the clearest evidence of our growth and maturity.

Through the Light of Christ and the Holy Ghost, we become aware of our weaknesses and areas that need self improvement. They make us aware of talents that need improvement. They also make us aware of areas of our lives that need to be changed or eliminated from our lives. When they become apparent and we act on that awareness we begin to make promises and set goals. When we are true to those goals, we build strength of character. That strength of character makes possible every other positive thing in our lives.

Missions bring us close to our Father in Heaven and thus a rich abundance of the Light of Christ and more blessings from the Holy Ghost. Our weaknesses are pointed out and we make changes in our lives; i.e. we repent. It is no wonder that President Hinckley can say that he can trace every good thing in his life back to what he learned and how he grew on his mission.

Stephen R. Covey in his book *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* said this about commitment:

President's Message

"We can make a promise— and keep it. Or we can set a goal— and *work* to achieve it. As we make and keep commitments, even small commitments, we begin to establish an inner integrity that gives us the awareness of self-control and the courage and strength to accept more of the responsibility for our own lives." Read closely what he says happens when we keep commitments we have made to ourselves: "Keeping commitments... is the essence of developing the basic habits of effectiveness. Knowledge, skill, and desire are all within our control. We can work on any one (knowledge, skill or desire) to improve the balance of the three."

As I mentioned in our devotional, President Ezra Taft Benson said of missionary work, "Missionaries should have a standard of performance or excellence to which they ascribe and to which they commit. Missionaries should take pride in being in the "best mission in the Church and being 'missionaries of excellence'." (Mission President Seminar, 21 June 1975)

We have made some serious commitments toward a standard of excellence. We have set a standard of excellence of 175 baptisms a month for the months of February and March. To reach that standard of excellence we are going to have to commit to a new level of obedience, hard work and humility in each of our lives. We will not be "missionaries of excellence" unless we make and keep personal commitments and goals. The strength of character that will result will not only bless our mission but our lives and our families' lives forever.

President Benson said, "Missionary work is not easy. It is the most demanding, the most compelling, the most exhausting, and yet, with it all, the most happy and most joyful work in all the world." We have learned the truth of that statement in this mission. May we commit to give all our heart, might, mind and strength to this great work.

President Moeller

***"We have set
a standard of
excellence of
175 baptisms
a month for
February and
March."***

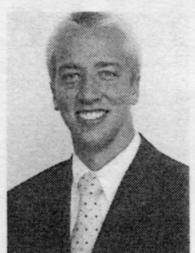
"Master Teacher"



ELDER JOHN



ELDER PUCHETA



ELDER KUBAL



ELDER ORR



ELDER CAVANAUGH

Master Finder



ELDER GRAY



ELDER CHALK

**Zone Conference
Jeopardy Winners:**

Congratulations to
Wyoming
West Valley
Pioneer

The Prize: A "P" Day!



Assistants to the President

In his allegory of the tame and wild olive trees, the prophet Zenos wrote of our day: "And it came to pass that the Lord of the vineyard sent his servant; and the servant went and did as the Lord had commanded him, and brought other servants; and they were few. And the Lord of the vineyard said unto them: Go to, and labor in the vineyard, with your might. For behold, this is the last time that I shall nourish my vineyard; for the end is nigh at hand, and the season speedily cometh; and if ye labor with your might with me ye shall have joy in the fruit which I shall lay up unto myself against the time which will soon come. And it came to pass that the servants did go and labor with their mights; and the Lord of the vineyard labored also with them; and they did obey the commandments of the Lord of the vineyard in all things." (Jacob 5:70-72) The servant sent is the prophet, and the other servants brought are you. The call for laborers has been sent forth, and the time to labor with your might is come. Because of what you know, what you do, and who you are, you, by the grace of God, stand positioned to have the greatest influence for good of any force on earth. Remember that "we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, [and] against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph. 6:12). This battle of ours is not easy, but, as you labor with the Lord, Elders and Sisters, He will labor with you in



Baptisms:

Jan

Granite.....	13
Helaman.....	21
Magna.....	13
Olympus.....	7
Pioneer.....	15
Temple.....	5
Tooele.....	13
West Valley.....	14
Wyoming.....	10

Mission Totals:

December	134
January	115

CERTIFICATIONS
Skilled Teacher
Elder Kubal

Certified Teacher
Elder Aja
Elder Kubal



February Devotional

Elder Robert Norman: (D&C84) "minds...have been darkened because of unbelief, and because you have treated lightly the things you have received—Which vanity and unbelief have brought the whole church under condemnation."

Don't ever treat lightly the things of the spirit. Refine your character, go home at the conclusion of your mission and be a beacon and a light.



bringing to pass the work and the glory of the Father.

**Elder Carter,
Elder Mourelatos,
Elder John**

Welcome New Missionaries! Departing Missionaries

INCOMING FEBRUARY 28, 2007

"Even before they were born, they, with many others, received their first lessons in the world of spirits and were prepared to come forth in the due time of the Lord to labor in his vineyard for the salvation of the souls of men." D&C 138:56



Sister Allred
Zebulon,
Georgia



Sister Juliao
Sao Paulo,
Brazil



Sister Toth
Roswell,
New Mexico



Elder Harbaugh
Waynesboro,
Pennsylvania



Elder Ramsey
Tecumseh,
Kansas



Elder Viglione
Roseville,
California



Elder Ryan A. Mourelatos
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The Lord said,
"For behold, this is my work and my glory — to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man."

(Mos. 1:39) What an amazing blessing it has been to labor for the past two years in bringing glory to the name of our Lord. There is nothing in this life that can supersede the joy and love that I have gained from my mission. I am confident in saying that, like President Hinckley, I can trace every blessing in this life to my membership in the church and, further, to my mission. My life has just begun, and though the mission draws quickly to a close, the avenues for teaching family and friends are now beginning to open. I thank all of my companions for their love, especially my boys for keeping me on the right track. The mission has meant everything to me...

I love you all and leave you with my testimony, that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that He is our advocate with the Father. Joseph Smith was the Prophet of the Restoration and did see what he said he saw — that he restored all of the gospel blessings that our Father in Heaven wishes for us to have. I know that God is our loving Heavenly Father and that He lives and loves us with the tender care of a parent. Gordon B. Hinckley is a living prophet and the Book of Mormon will, as Joseph said, bring a man "...nearer to God than by any other book." Take care,

Elder Ryan A. Mourelatos

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 28 Feb Sister Toth | 18 Mar Sister Dent* |
| 02 Mar Pres. Nordfelt* | 20 Mar Elder Lopez |
| 02 Mar Sister Norton* | 22 Mar Elder Ivanov |
| 05 Mar Elder Holyoak | 22 Mar Elder Latu |
| 08 Mar Sister Juliao | 24 Mar Elder Frye |
| 08 Mar Elder M. Olsen | 24 Mar Elder Zelaya |
| 09 Mar Elder Dimter | 30 Mar Elder Malouf |
| 09 Mar Sister Solomon | 08 Apr Elder Castel |
| 11 Mar Elder Munoz | 09 Apr Elder McDonald |
| 13 Mar Pres. Dewsnap* | 09 Apr Elder B. Olsen |
| 16 Mar Elder Coatney | 09 Apr Elder Williams |
| 18 Mar Elder Cavanaugh | 11 Apr Elder Ross |

*Senior Missionaries

The past two years

have been a wonderful experience. With the highest of highs and lowest of lows, fun times and painful times, but the lessons I have learned, the people I have met, I wouldn't trade it for anything! not even an all-expense paid trip to Hawaii that I was offered by a non-member friend if I would come home early. The only advice I have for you Elders and Sisters is that of the prophet Jacob: "O be wise; what can I say more?" Jacob 6:12. The Church, the Book of Mormon and the Prophet Joseph Smith are all TRUE! 'Till next time,

Elder Mark Arnott

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We ❤️ Baptisms!



Utah Salt Lake City Mission Baptisms

